



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF OCEAN CITY

AMERICA'S GREATEST FAMILY RESORT

December 29, 2008

Via Telefax & Regular Mail

Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senate
One Port Center, Suite 505
2 Riverside Drive
Camden, New Jersey 08101

Via Telefax & Regular Mail

Honorable Robert Menendez
United States Senate
Barrington Commons, Suite 18
208 White Horse Pike
Barrington, New Jersey 08007

Via Telefax & Regular Mail

Honorable Frank A. LoBiondo
Congressman, District 2
United States House of Representatives
Suite 103
5914 Main Street
Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

RECEIVED

DEC 30 2008

Frank A. LoBiondo, M

**RE: South End Emergency Beach Fill
Economic Stimulus Funding
Ocean City, New Jersey**

Dear Senator Lautenberg, Senator Menendez and Congressman LoBiondo:

The City of Ocean City has seen significant erosion on the beaches at the south end of the island. This area has witnessed severe beach erosion and the threat of property damage is apparent. In preparation for a 2009 beach replenishment project, the City has surveyed the area and developed plans for such a project. Construction funding is required to complete this project which is estimated to cost over \$2 million. Given the timing of this project, it is an ideal project for Economic Stimulus Funding and to this end we are requesting your support.

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Back in July, Jim Rutala, the Ocean City Business Administrator, attended a coordination meeting in Sea Isle City relative to an Army Corps of Engineers Project planned for the southern part of Ocean City (34th Street to Corson's Inlet), Strathmere in Upper Township, and Sea Isle City to Townsend's Inlet. This over \$50 Million project has recently received authorization by the Federal Government, but as been experienced of late, Federal funding for such a large project cannot be guaranteed. At best, once the Cooperative Agreements are completed between the State and the Corps, the project may have to be constructed in parts as funding is granted for construction.

This gives the City serious concern with regard to the southern portion of the beach which suffered damage during the storm that occurred last Spring. At the previously mentioned meeting, we became aware of a State emergency beach replenishment project being pursued for the northern portion of Strathmere (Upper Township) and Sea Isle City, with sand being taken from Corson's Inlet. As this would be the natural area from which to take sand for the southern portion of Ocean City, there are obvious economies of scale by completing the Ocean City project when the dredge is being deployed to the Strathmere area. Mobilization costs will be reduced and the dredge can efficiently work in the two neighboring areas. There are obvious benefits to the Corson's Inlet as well.

This project would have many benefits to the local economy and is an ideal project for the Economic Stimulus Package – valuable property is being protected, jobs are being created to complete the dredging and the multi billion dollar tourism industry of Cape May County is boosted by providing favorable conditions on the beaches for the 2009 season.

We are prepared to work with the Federal and State officials to insure that this project is completed immediately. Please contact Jim Rutala, OC Business Administrator, at 609.525.9333 to coordinate the next steps to realize this very important initiative.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Sal Perillo

Mayor

mavor@ocnj.us

SP:ac

c: Senator Jeff VanDrew
Assemblyman Nelson Albano
Assemblyman Matt Milam
Mark Mauriello, NJDEP Commissioner
David Rosenblatt, Administrator, DEP
James M. Rutala, OC Business Administrator